From the description given by Dr. Colardeau of the specimen obtained in Gaudeloupe lately, it was probably *Æstrelata hæsitata*, which species Prof. Alfred Newton determined the specimens sent by L'Herminier to Lafresnaye to be.

Pere Labat gives a black figure of it, and also describes it as being black; the question arises whether there are two birds bearing the name of Diablotin, or whether his description is erroneous.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF *RAMPHOCELUS* FROM COSTA RICA.

BY GEORGE K. CHERRIE.

Ramphocelus costaricensis sp. nov.

Above, whole head varying from a dusky slate black to a slate gray; back and scapulars dusky yellowish olive; rump and upper tail-coverts ochraceous rufous of varying intensity in the different specimens. Wings dusky brownish black, inner webs of quills darkest; tail blackish. Below, chin and throat grayish; breast ochraceous rufous like the rump; the rest of lower parts yellowish olive, darker along the sides. "Bill black with plumbeous base. Feet, dark plumbeous." Female similar.

Measurements (in inches) of six skins.

Number	Locality	Date	Sex	Wing		Tail feathers	Exposed culmen	From nostril to tip of bill	Gonys	Tarsus
2181	Pozo Azul	Nov. 10, 1887	♀	3.14	3.20	2.74	.60	.50	.38	.94
2182	" "	" 8, "	♀♀	3.07	3.20	2.75	.58	.50	.37	.88
3271	" "	Sept. 12. 1889	♀	3.05	3.22	2 92	.63	.50	.36	.85
3272	" "	" " "	—	2.95	3.19	2.74	.64	.52	.37	.86
3273	" "	" 9, "	♂	3.06	3 30	2.87	.63	.50	—	.92
3274	" "	" 9, "	♂	3.16	3.10	2.65	.62	.50	.38	.87
Average				3.07	3.20	2 78	.62	.50	.37	.89

HABITAT.—Pozo Azul, Costa Rica.

Types in the Costa Rica National Museum, numbers 2181 and 2182, females collected in November, 1887, and numbers 3271, 3272, 3273 and 3274, two males, one female and one in which the sex is not indicated, collected in September, 1889. The six examples were collected and presented to the Museum by Señor Don José C. Zeledón.

The general coloration of this bird is very similar to that of the females of *Rhamphocelus passerinii*, but while in many of the females of the latter species the breast and rump is brighter colored, the color is of a rich golden yellowish olive not in any way resembling the ochraceous rufous of the present species; neither is the tail so dark, being dusky brownish black instead of clear dusky black. The two are distinguishable at a glance. The wing formula is also slightly different, as out of twenty-five examples of *passerinii* examined only one was found having the first primary as long as the eighth; while in the new species the first primary is intermediate between the seventh and eighth.

The bill is similar in form to that of *R. passerinii*, but there is no appreciable difference between that of the male and that of the female. It is on this character,—the form of the bill, with "peculiar enlargement of the naked base of the lower mandible"—together with the general resemblance in pattern of coloration, so similar to that of the females of *R. passerinii*, that I have been led to refer the species to the genus *Rhamphocelus*. I am informed by Mr. Zeledón that it has exactly the same habits and call-notes. In the sexes being alike, one of the characters hitherto held as common to the genus is destroyed. But the form of the bill, together with the pattern of coloration, seems to me to exclude it from the genus *Phlogothraupis*, in which the sexes are alike. The only points in which it agrees with that genus are the similarity of the sexes and the first primary being intermediate between the seventh and eighth. In the nine specimens of *P. sanguinolenta* in the collection I find that eight have the first primary intermediate between the seventh and eighth, and in the other example the remiges are not fully grown. But this latter character may be shared by some other members of the genus *Rhamphocelus;* not having specimens for examination I am unable to say.

R. passerinii is slightly the smaller, the average measurements of twenty specimens from the collection, ten males and ten fe-

males being as follows:—Wing, 2.96 inches, tail, 3.13; tail-feathers, 2.71; exposed culmen, .57; nostril to tip of bill, .48; gonys, .36; tarsus, .85.

R. costaricensis seems to be an entirely local species, differing from *R. passerinii*, of which species the Museum possesses a large series from various localities, both on the Atlantic and on the Pacific sides of the Cordillera, including Pozo Azul where the two are found in company. Pozo Azul is situated about thirty miles southwest of San José, just at the foot of the hills where the level belt of the Pacific coast begins. For this reason and from the fact that I have not met with the bird in the extensive series of specimens I have examined from the Atlantic region, I am inclined to believe it a species confined to the southwest coast region.

I would here express my thanks to Mr. J. C. Zeledón for kind suggestions in regard to the present paper.

THE BIRDS OF ANDROS ISLAND, BAHAMAS.

BY JOHN I. NORTHROP.

THE ISLAND of Andros is the largest of the Bahama group, being about ninety miles long, and forty or fifty miles across at the widest part. The southern portion is separated from the northern by shallow waters called 'bights'; but these are so filled with cays, as to make it convenient to include all the islands under the general name of Andros.

Like all the others of the group, Andros is entirely of coral formation. The country is described by the natives as either 'coppet', 'pine-yard,' or 'swash.' The first term is applied to the thicket of angiospermous trees and shrubs that occupies the ridge along the eastern coast. In most places, this belt is very narrow, but near the southern end it extends several miles into the interior. Back of the coppet, the land is comparatively level, and is covered by a forest of the Bahama Pine (*Pinus bahamensis*). As one approaches the west coast, the pines become smaller and are mingled with palmettos; finally both cease, and one sees